

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 IGA-02 PM-07 L-03 CIAE-00

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R 121153Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7728

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, IR

SUBJ: SURPLUS PROPERTY AND LEND-LEASE DEBTS

REF: TEHRAN 4961

1. RATHER THAN A FULL STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN'S CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON ACCOUNT OF USE OF IRAN'S RAILROADS DURING WORLD WAR II, THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A NOTE FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE STATING "THAT THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT IS DESIROUS OF MISSIONS TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE IRANIAN AND US GOVERNMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MUTUAL CLAIMS, E.E. US CLAIMS ON ACCOUNT OF LEND-LEASE AND SURPLUS ARMS SALE AND IRAN'S CLAIMS ON ACCOUNT OF WORLD WAR II USE OF IRANIAN RAILWAYS BY THE ALLIES, AND REQUESTS US REPRESENTATIVES BE PRESENTED FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSE."

2. THIS APPROACH APPEARS TO OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF BOTH SIDES DESIGNATING TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED TEAMS TO SIT DOWN AND DEFINE THE NATURE AND VALIDITY OF RESPECTIVE CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS. INASMUCH AS INTERMITTENT APPROACHES PRIMARILY AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS HAVE PRODUCED MEAGER RESULTS, IT MAY BE THAT THIS COURSE OF ACTION MIGHT PROVE MORE CONSTRUCTIVE. WHILE FINAL RESOLUTION OF THIS VEXING ISSUE WILL DOUBTLESS REQUIRE DECISION AT SENIOR GOI LEVELS AND NECESSARILY INVOLVE THE AMBASSADOR, WE, NEVERTHELESS, THINK IT DESIRABLE TO LAY THE GROUND
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WORK FOR SUCH DECISION THROUGH NEGOTIATION AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS RECOMMENDED THE DEPARTMENT GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO FIELDING AN APPROPRIATELY QUALIFIED TEAM OF EXPERTS AND THAT THE EMBASSY BE AUTHORIZED TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY WITH THE GOI.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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